

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, Applicant requests favorable reconsideration and allowance of the above-identified application.

Claims 3-9, 13-16, 19-26 and 32-36 are now pending in this application, with Claims 3-9, 13-16, 19-26 and 32, being independent. By this Amendment, Applicant has canceled Claim 1, 2, 10-12, 17, 18, 27-31 and 37-43, and amended Claims 3-9, 13-16, 19-26 and 32. Claims 32-36 are allowed.

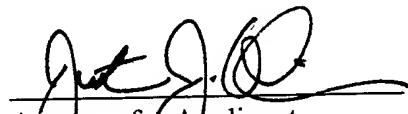
Claims 1, 2, 10, 11, 12, 17 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 1, 2, 10, 27, 28, 29, 30 and 31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by International Publication No. WO 98/45108 (Koike). Applicant submits that these rejections are moot are in view of the cancellation of the rejected claims.

Applicant would like thank the Examiner for indicating that Claims 3-9, 13-16, and 19-26 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant has rewritten each of these claims in independent form and submits that they are allowable. In incorporating the language from the respective base claims, Applicant has clarified the recitations of the relationship between the refractive index and the Abbe number so as to indicate that those variables refer to the properties of the first and second materials.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that the independent claims are allowable over the applied documents, and requests a Notice of Allowance.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicant
Justin J. Oliver
Registration No. 44,986

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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